

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the Regular Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Thursday, August 18, 2005

The regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, August 18, 2005 at 3:00 p.m., at Our Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Erminia Ramirez
Jim Holley **(ABS)**
Megan Norris
Willie Hampton
Arthur Blackwell II **(ABS)**

Department Personnel Present

Chief Ella M. Bully-Cummings
AC Walter Martin
Cmdr. Morris Wells
Insp. Gail Wilson-Turner
Insp. Tony Saunders
Lt. John Serda
Lt. Donna Jarvis
Lt. Danny Allen
Lt. James Tolbert
Lt. Lloyd Sharper
Lt. John Morrell
Sgt. Kimberly Gabriel
Sgt. Joanna Ali-Johnson
Sgt. Sherry Miesel
Sgt. Melanie Thompson
Sgt. Romel Alexander
P.O. Kent Cooper
Atty. Nancy Ninowski

Board Staff Present

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director
Lawana Ducker, Personnel Director
Denise R. Hooks, Attorney/Supervising Inv.

Arnold Sheard, Interim Chief Investigator
Anisley Cromwell, Supervising Inv.
Harrison Tolliver, Supervising, Inv.

OTHERS PRESENT

Honorable David J. Allen
Ron Scott
Ms. Walters
Kenneth Donaldson
John McClain
Fred Walker
Media

RECORDERS

John Schikora
Robert Brown

1. CALL TO ORDER

Comm. Ramirez called the regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:17 p.m.

2. ANNOUCEMENT

Chairperson Ramirez stated that this would be Commissioner Megan Norris last day. We will swear-in our new Commissioner Mohamed Okdie today, but he will not take his seat until next Thursday August 25, 2005.

3. OATH OF OFFICE

Chairperson Ramirez introduced Judge David J. Allen from the 3rd Circuit Court, who will be swearing in Commissioner Mohamed Okdie.

Judge David J. Allen from 3rd Circuit Court performed the swearing-in of Commissioner Mohamed Okdie.

Chairperson Ramirez presented Commissioner Megan Norris with a retirement badge.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Thursday, August 11, 2005

MOTION: Comm. Norris made the motion to approve the above Minutes.

SECOND: Comm. Hampton seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

5. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Chairperson Ramirez stated to Comm. Norris that she wanted to take the opportunity to let her know that the Commissioners as well as OCI are going to miss her. She stated that Comm. Norris brought a lot of expertise on Employment Litigation, Disability Act, Family Medical Leave Act, Sexual Harassment, Wrongful Discharge and Discrimination to the Detroit Police Department. She stated that she would personally like to say, "I have learned a lot from Comm. Norris". "She is a very out spoken person and truly believes in policy making". "She has done an outstanding job". She stated that Comm. Norris has given the Commissioners great insight in regards to the Consent Decree.

Comm. Norris stated that when she learned that she was going to be a Commissioner she was invited to a meeting and that former Commissioner Edgar Van was the Chairperson at the time. During public comments a citizen got up to speak and before he got the microphone Commissioner Van said "Mr. Valerie " and I thought oh my goodness he knows the name of these people. I am never going to know the names of these people. Of course I do know Mr. Valerie for the first two years that I was on the Commission came to every meeting and simply asked, "Do you have the report yet" and set down. I know Mr. Crateolia, Mr. Scott, Ms. Heinz's and Mr. Crawford. Citizens who have, week after week after week taken time to come here and challenged us to do our jobs. If I had my way every meeting would be packed with citizens and there would be no place for sworn people to sit. But that isn't the case. I think the Commission has done its best work when we have been reminded what our duties are. We have done our worst work when we think we have to ask for permission to carry out our duties. It's our responsibility to carry out our duties. I am really going to miss my board members. I am especially going to miss the folks who have a commitment that I never had. To go to something that I didn't have to be at week after, week after, week and hold folks accountable. Mr. Scott is here today and I hope you will pass on to others that you see and give them my regards.

Comm. Hampton stated he would like to congratulate Mr. Mohamed for coming on as a Commissioner. I am looking forward to working with him. To out going Comm.

Norris who has done a phenomenal job, certainly I would have not known the things that I know that pertains to the Charter, our duties and responsibilities. She has tutored all of us and she is a stand up person. We wish you well and don't go too far because we are going to explore a way for you to become a consultant. Good luck!

Comm. Norris stated thank you.

RESOLUTION HONORING

LIEUTENANT JAMES R. ELLIOT, JR.

WHEREAS On July 15, 2005, Lieutenant James R. Elliot, Jr. retired from the Detroit Police Department after thirty-five and a half (35 1/2) years of distinguished service to the citizens of Detroit; and

WHEREAS James R. Elliot, Jr. was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on November 17, 1969, after having honorably served in the United States Army. Officer Elliot graduated at the top of his class from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, after which he briefly served at the Tactical Mobile Unit. He was then assigned to the Twelfth Precinct where, within months of joining the Department, his apprehension of two felons earned him the first of many citations; and

WHEREAS On December 2, 1971, Officer Elliot transferred to the elite Tactical Mobile Unit and over a three-year period, he effectuated numerous concealed weapon, robbery and homicide arrests, and was awarded over a dozen citations and commendations for his actions; and

WHEREAS On May 9, 1974, Officer Elliot was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and assigned to the Tenth Precinct as the Patrol Supervisor. He served in that capacity until 1977, when he transferred to the Narcotics Section where he continued his hands-on style of crime fighting; and

WHEREAS On January 11, 1985, Sergeant Elliot was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, and was assigned to the Twelfth Precinct Investigative Operations Section. After 19 years of aggressive and successful patrol and criminal investigations, Lieutenant Elliot transferred to the Second Precinct in 1988 and served as a uniformed patrol supervisor and then as the commanding officer of the Special Operations Section; and

WHEREAS In 1995, Lieutenant Elliot transferred to the Chief's Staff, and then to the Armed Robbery Unit in 1996, where he was tasked with the hefty responsibility of commanding and overseeing all bank, business and significant robberies, as well as all major criminal investigations; and

WHEREAS Lieutenant Elliot's hard work, achievements, and consistent performance did not go unnoticed. On October 4, 2004, he was tapped as one of the commanding officers to head up the newly created Investigative Operations Division – West, where he served until his retirement; and

WHEREAS Lieutenant Elliot completed his undergraduate studies at Wayne State University in 1984, receiving a Bachelor's degree in Police Administration; and

WHEREAS In over 35 years of exemplary service to the Department, Lieutenant Elliot received numerous awards and letters of appreciation from citizens, superiors, and other law enforcement agencies. He has also received twelve (12) Department Commendations, seven (7) Departmental Citations, five (5) Chief Unit Awards, eight (8) Perfect Attendance Awards, three (3) Perfect Driver Awards, and one (1) GOP Commemorative award.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED That the Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department acknowledge that Lieutenant James R. Elliot, Jr. has served the City of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department with loyalty, professionalism and integrity for more than 35 years. He is a consummate public servant, whose dedication and tireless service merit our highest regard and best wishes for continued success.

We salute and thank you for your service, Lieutenant James R. Elliot, Jr.

/s/ Erminia Ramirez
Chairperson

/s/ Rev. Jim Holley
Vice Chairperson

/s/ Megan P. Norris
Commissioner

/s/ Willie Hampton
Commissioner

**ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
JULY 14, 2005**

/s/ Arthur Blackwell, II
Commissioner

RESOLUTION HONORING

Sergeant Larry L. Courts

WHEREAS Larry L. Courts was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on February 18, 1974. Upon graduation from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Department, he began his illustrious career at the First Precinct; and

WHEREAS Officer Courts was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on August 19, 1988. As a Sergeant, his assignments included service at the Third Precinct, the Seventh Precinct, the Twelfth Precinct, the Sixteenth Precinct, the Mini Station Task Force, the Special Crimes Unit, the Felony Prevention Division, the Headquarters Bureau and the Fourth Precinct; and

WHEREAS In April 1992, Sergeant Courts was assigned to the Narcotics Special Enforcement Section where he served as the administrative sergeant until his transfer to the Narcotics Enforcement Section in October 1999. He then served in the Narcotics Support Division before being assigned to the Organized Crime/Gang Division in July 2002, where he served until his retirement on August 1, 2005; and

WHEREAS Sergeant Courts is widely respected throughout the law enforcement community as the consummate professional. He has served the Detroit Police Department and the citizens of the city of Detroit with loyalty and dedication; and

WHEREAS In 31 years of service to the Detroit Police Department, Sergeant Courts has been the recipient of numerous letters of appreciation from citizens and superiors, including six Chief's Unit Awards, six Chief's Merit Awards, two Citations, fifteen Commendations, four Perfect Attendance Awards, and the 1980 GOP Commemorative Award.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, awards this resolution in recognition of the hard work and relentless efforts of Sergeant Larry L. Courts. His 31 years of outstanding service and commitment merit our highest regard and best wishes for continued success in future endeavors.

We salute and congratulate you, Sergeant Larry L. Courts.

/s/ Erminia Ramirez
Chairperson

/s/ Rev. Jim Holley
Vice Chairperson

/s/ Megan P. Norris
Commissioner

/s/ Willie Hampton
Commissioner

**ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
JULY 14, 2005**

/s/ Arthur Blackwell, II
Commissioner

5. SECRETARY'S REPORT – EXEC. DIR. GOSS

SUSPENSION

On Wednesday, July 13, 2005, the Internal Affairs Section was notified of an allegation of misconduct on the part of Sergeant Wedad Elhage, Badge S-505, assigned to the Eighth Precinct. More specifically, the complaint alleged that Sergeant Elhage did, while off-duty, create a disturbance at the MGM Grand Casino, threatening the well being of persons and property.

As a result, the Internal Affairs Section initiated an investigation, which revealed the following:

On July 13, 2005, at approximately 3:30 p.m. Sergeant Elhage was seated in the MGM Casino (hereinafter the Casino) at a slot machine with dollar bills scattered about the floor in and around where she was seated. This caused other patrons of the Casino to gather around her, thereby causing a security concern. Casino Security approached Sergeant Elhage and requested that she pick up her money from the area surrounding her. Sergeant Elhage refused to comply with the request. Casino Security then escorted Sergeant Elhage from the premises. Upon exiting the Casino, Sergeant Elhage threatened to kill the security personnel. As a result, Casino Security contacted the Detroit Police Department.

Initially, two (2) Detroit Police Sergeants responded to the scene of the incident, Sergeant Price and Sergeant Jenkins. Sergeant Price and Sergeant Jenkins attempted to talk to Sergeant Elhage who, in return, shouted racial obscenities at them; "I will kick both your black asses." Sergeant Price and Sergeant Jenkins continued to talk to Sergeant Elhage in an attempt to calm her. In return, Sergeant Elhage charged Sergeant Price and attempted to kick him. Sergeant Jenkins then requested additional police personnel respond to the location.

Inspector Quinn then responded to the scene of the incident. Inspector Quinn tried to calm Sergeant Elhage and was also met with racial obscenities; "I am going to fuck-up all you Negroes." Inspector Quinn offered Sergeant Elhage an opportunity to sit in his Detroit Police Department vehicle to allow her to calm down. Officer Elhage refused and became combative with two (2) uniform officers, Officer Erikson and Officer Patel. At one point, Sergeant Elhage stated that she was going to kill all of the officers at the scene and that she was going to "fuck up Patel's Mexican ass and all the Negroes as well." Sergeant Elhage also stated that she was going to notify the Arab community and have them all killed including Inspector Quinn's children, who she referred to by name.

By this point, approximately nine (9) uniform officers responded to the scene of the incident, including one (1) Inspector and one (1) Commander, and a crowd of casino-goers gathered to observe.

Sergeant Elhage eventually complied with the order to sit in a Department vehicle. Sergeant Elhage then began to bang her head against the right rear window and kick the window in an attempt to break the window out. While doing so, Sergeant Elhage stated that they could then arrest her for a felony. Sergeant Elhage was then let out of the vehicle. Upon doing so, in an aggressive manner, Sergeant Elhage attempted to physically assault Sergeant Price and had to be physically restrained. Sergeant Elhage was then placed in custody and transported to the Third Precinct for processing where Sergeant Elhage continued to be combative and shout racial epithets, and threatened more officers with physical harm. Sergeant Elhage was eventually conveyed to Detroit Receiving Hospital for evaluation.

Also, on July 13, 2005, Sergeant Elhage was charged with Disorderly Conduct in violation of the Detroit City Code, Section 38-5-1, a misdemeanor punishable by ninety (90) days in jail and/or a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

On July 29, 2005, Officer Elhage was arraigned on the charge of Disorderly Conduct at the State of Michigan Thirty-Sixth District Court. Sergeant Elhage pled not guilty to the charge and the one hundred dollar (\$100.00) bond that was previously posted was continued. The case is scheduled for pre-trial on August 10, 2005.

Based on the above circumstances, it is recommended that Sergeant Elhage be charged with, but not limited to the following violation of the Detroit Police Department Rules and Regulations:

CHARGE: CONDUCT UNPROFESSIONAL; CONTRARY TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS, THIS BEING IN VIOLATION OF THE DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT MANUAL, SERIES 100, DIRECTIVE 102.3-5.7, CONDUCT UNBECOMING AN OFFICER, COMMAND 3.

Due to the seriousness of the conduct, I am requesting your concurrence with the suspension of Sergeant Wedad Elhage without pay, effective August 18, 2005.

Exec. Dir. Goss asked if there is anyone here on Sergeant Elhage's behalf.

Atty. Fred Walker stated he is from DPLSA on behalf of Sergeant Elhage. I prepared some packages of paperwork that I would like to present. It's my view of this matter that there is a history and precedence of the Detroit Police Department. Including references the general orders that alcoholism and alcohol abuse should be treated as a "treatable illness". The first issue is whether her behavior can be caused from the alcohol abuse, which is my position that manifested the behavior in the first place. I

submit to you that the answer to that is emphatically no. Because the behavior on this occasion is some much at odds with her normal conducts as a human being and as a Sergeant of the Detroit Police Department. That in of itself of course is insufficient, and I understand that the charge is not of alcohol abuse or being intoxicated. It's the conduct that's charged. That's why I think it is important that the commission view the underlying symptoms as opposed to the result of the alcohol abuse. The second issue is whether Sgt. Elhage has acknowledged her alcohol abuse, and I submit to you that the answer to that is emphatically yes. That can only be proven. She has taken concrete steps to address her behavior. I notice that when Mr. Goss read it he didn't read everything and he kept it to a minimal. I appreciate that. But, I understand the behavior was completely over the top and she acknowledges that as well. So, this has been building for quite some time with her. I submit to you that it is job related and everybody has stress especially police officers, but in her case this how it manifested itself, in alcohol abuse. She has never been intoxicated on the job, never drank before work and never during work. She's a binge drinker and that's when it comes up with this bazaar behavior that manifested itself here. I have some paperwork in there, which shows the steps taken to address her situation. I would like to go over them briefly. She has been attending anger management through personal affairs she completed immediately. These are voluntary steps taken by Sgt. Elhage. She completed a one-week inpatient program for alcohol abuse. By the way she has never previously mentioned that she had a problem. She is continuing with outpatient therapy. There is a daily AA attendance. None of the things she had done before. She is under the care of a medical doctor. She has made apologies to those whom she has been able to including the Inspector through an intermediary. She has worked with both of his children and knows them and apologizes for what she said. In court we did appear at a pretrial and she pled no contest to the charges. That matter was taken under advisement for one year, by the judge. I would submit to you that her behavior since that time has be a genuine sincere admission of wrongdoing and an attempt to make things right. Now you are here to determine whether you are going to suspend her without pay pending the trail board. The trial board is scheduled for September 21st. Even though we cannot take issue with the behavior we feel that we can show a very strong case as to her character as a normal proposition. We have a number of witnesses that we will be calling. I feel strongly that we will have a strong presentation. This will be a real financial hardship for her. She has been able to line up another job in the event that you do suspend her. With her mortgage and home equity loan that will eat up the entire wages that she earns. Also, she would lose her insurance, which pays for the outpatient therapy. I submit to you that her alcohol abuse is in fact job related. I want to point out a few specific things that have

occurred during her career. She came to the Department in 1987. In 1992 it was the first time she drank alcohol. She was often teased and harassed at work by her co-workers. A person who was very kind to her was murdered in 1992. In 1995 there were an accident between two scout cars that were involved in a chase and the two officers were killed. One of those officers was her scout car partner and the other officer was her jogging partner. There was the Oklahoma bombing and the thought was that it was Arabic related. She is Arabic, so there was a lot of teasing from that.

She has worked in a variety of departments including homicide where she would take a drink to fall asleep. I think if you look at that and consider her career as an 18 year veteran and at the trail board we will bring in a number of supervisors who we believe will testify favorable to her character and conduct as an officer. She is an accomplished person that's motivated and dedicated. Importantly, I think she is a kind-hearted person. I am asking that you give her a reprieve for the time being and support her. I think she is going to come out of this well and return to the department.

Chairperson Ramirez stated one of the forms that you gave does not have a letterhead it's just written.

Atty. Fred Walker stated right those are the AA meetings.

Chairperson Ramirez stated I don't see one from them that she has been attending; it's just a log.

Atty. Fred Walker stated correct, just a phone number.

Atty. Nanowski stated the she just has two points to make before she starts in on her arguments. One, in respect to the documents that Mr. Walker has provided you with concerning Sgt. Elhage, I am going to enter an objection on the record. One is to relevancy; two, I had no advanced notice that these documents were going to be entered. I will say on August 10th I faxed to the DPLSA the documentation that I had concerning this case including a copy of the suspension petition that I filed but I did not receive the same consideration. Second with respect to alcoholism and I wasn't going to bring this issue up, but I think I have every right to bring this issue up because Mr. Walker has opened the door. This not the first time that we have dealt with an alcohol issue with respect to Sgt. Elhage. It is not the second time, but it's the third time. In two prior incidents they are very similar to what have occurred in Detroit on July 13th, only using other police jurisdictions. We have given her every consideration. Having said that we are here today to talk about her duty status. The standard is given the conduct that engaged in, should this Sergeant continue to work as a police officer? In order to answer that question you need to look at the conduct that was involved. On July 13th Sgt Elhage was at a MGM Casino sitting at a slot machine. Nothing is wrong with that. She got money scattered around the floor and a crowd gathers. Security becomes concerned because they think it is going to cause a problem so they go over a ask her to pick up the money. She refuses and becomes combative and starts yelling racial epithets and they escort her from the casino. In the

parking lot she threatens to kill the two security officers who escorted her out of the building. They contact the Detroit Police Department and two Sergeants arrive on the scene not with the intent to arrest Sgt. Elhage, but to calm her down. They tried to calm her down and what did she do? She yelled racial epithets and becomes combated and tries to assault one of the Sergeants. At that point an Inspector is called. He tries to calm her down and she assaults him. He wants her to get into his police car where it is nice and cool inside. She threatens him and his two children by

stating that she will kill them. At that point a commander arrives on the scene. Sgt. Elhage finally goes into a police car and tries to kick the windows out of the car and says "now can arrest me for a felony". They still do not arrest her but at this point you have nine DPD uniform officers there and five casino personnel. No one wants to arrest her; everybody just wants her to calm down. But she doesn't and they end up arresting her for disorderly conduct. I guess the issue before you, does that conduct warrant a reduced status without pay? The department answer is yes. I'll make four points, one it's a violation of the criminal code and a violation of the rules and regulations of this department. Secondly, you got an issue of trust that is the basis of this department and basis of law enforcement. She is a supervisor we are not talking about a patrol officer. Thirdly, one of the most important elements that I think you have to look at is the impact it has on the citizens of this community. They think when we send officers out that we are sending out people that we trust. Fourth, the resources that this department poured into Sgt. Elhage on July 13th for three hours trying to calm her down before they finally arrested her. Based on the four points I would respectfully request that you concur with the Chief recommendations and suspend Sgt. Elhage without pay.

Comm. Norris asked how are we doing on my project?

Atty. Nanowski stated on you project we have come up with time lines.

Comm. Norris stated let me tell you why, Mr. Walker I don't think we had the pleasure of having you here before but we have been having an ongoing discussion. I have no question in my mind and my fellow commissioners will exercise their own judgments that this conduct warrants a suspension without pay. One of the things that I am very proud of and I think the Commission can only take half of the credit because I think the other half goes to the Chief and her predecessor is that we raised the bar. There was a time when this kind of conduct, because there was no felony change would have gone without misconduct. If you take the racial slurs out of it, this conduct the violence alone will warrant a suspension without pay. I think when you add the slurs, it makes it all the more clear that this officer cannot currently carry out her duties effectively. Having said that regardless of the history I do believe in redemption of a sort. It is clear that this officer is making efforts to turn things around. I am really pleased to hear that there is a trial board in September. That sounds we will get to some resolution on the disciplinary tract. I will support the suspension without pay knowing that before too long the disciplinary procedure will go through. But I have an ongoing concern about officers that we suspend without pay. The

conduct warrants it but then they hang out there for a very long time without the department taking disciplinary action. I think that is really unfair to the officers. I think the officer ought to have a right to have these thing reconsidered after some time has passed.

Atty. Nanowski stated to Comm. Norris that the Chief does take that very seriously in terms of a suspension of a duty status without pay. And as a result of that now you see these cases are set for trial board.

Chairperson Ramirez asked I did not see does she have prior suspensions?

Atty. Nanowski stated that since the DPOA opened the door I thought I would bring that up but yes.

Exec. Dir. Goss stated that he would like to recognize Lt. Shaper and Harrison Tolliver from the Office of the Chief Investigators.

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
2005 - Weekly Count of Complaints:	43	967
2004 - Weekly Count of Complaints:	30	1069

- The Office of the Chief Investigator (OCI) closed a total of **30** cases this week.
- The Office of the Chief Investigator submitted **3** cases to the Chief's Office.
- The Chief's Office has reviewed and returned **23** cases to OCI.

6. REPORT/PRESENTATION-CHIEF OF POLICE

DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS



BUILDING A SAFER DETROIT THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS.

The Detroit Police Department is committed to uphold its mission to provide a safe environment for our residents and businesses. This effort is not possible without the joint commitment of the community and the Police Department. We appreciate and

value the role our citizens have played in helping us to take guns and drugs off the streets of the city of Detroit.

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

THE NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT AND CONSPIRACY UNITS

During the period of August 1st – August 7th, the Narcotics Enforcement and Conspiracy Units conducted 51 search warrants and 30 street enforcement actions within the boundaries of the city of Detroit, resulting in the following arrests and confiscations:

- ◆ 38 Felony arrests
- ◆ 137 Misdemeanor arrests
- ◆ 2,757.8 Grams of cocaine, 41.3 grams of heroin, 26,156.8 grams of marijuana and
488 pills - street value \$1,286,967.00
- ◆ \$185,532.00 U.S. currency

Confiscated:

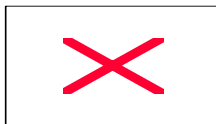
- ◆ 24 Hand guns
- ◆ 2 Vehicles

HOMICIDE SECTION

On August 6th, officers from the Homicide Section responded to the 20000 block of Strasburg on a "One Down" run. An investigation revealed that two (2) men drove to this location and picked up a third man who sat in the rear passenger seat behind the driver. Once the vehicle was in motion the third man shot the driver in the head and ordered the second man to drive. The two (2) men dumped the body at Edsel Ford and Casino. Once the body was dumped the armed man then drove to another location and shot and killed a second person critically wounding a third. As a result of an investigation the man was arrested without incident for "Premeditated Murder", "Felony Assault", "Felon in Possession of a Firearm" and "Felony Firearm."

THE FUGITIVE APPREHENSION SERVICES TEAM

On August 2nd, officers from the Fugitive Apprehension Team (F.A.S.T.) responded to the 1500 block of military to execute an arrest warrant on a man wanted for "Carrying Concealed Weapon – Person." F.A.S.T. setup stationary surveillance on the home and after a brief foot chase the man was arrested without further incident. Confiscated was one (1) AK-47 Assault Rifle, one (1) .357 Magnum and Narcotic Paraphernalia.



Police/Community Intervention

TAKING THE GUNS OFF THE STREET !



Total Guns Confiscated
Year-To-Date
2,322

SECOND PRECINCT

On August 1st, officers of the 2nd Precinct, while on patrol in the area of Greenfield and Kendall, observed a man attempting to break into a business. As a result of an investigation one (1) man was arrested without incident for "Breaking and Entering - Business." Further investigation revealed that the man was responsible for ten (10) other "Break-Ins", a "Home Invasion II", a "Breaking and Entering – Business" in Dearborn and numerous "Unlawful Driving Away of an Automobile."

FIFTH PRECINCT

On July 30th, officers of the 5th Precinct responded to the 11000 block of E. Warren on a "Breaking and Entering – in Progress" run. Officers setup stationary surveillance and observed a man walking around pretending to pick up garbage and looking around the area, at which point he then crawled under a security gate and entered a store. Subsequent to an investigation one (1) man was arrested for "Breaking and Entering - Business" and "Habitual 3rd Offense."

EIGHTH PRECINCT

On August 5th, officers of the 8th Precinct, while on patrol in the area of Ferguson and Fargo, observed a vehicle blockading a moving lane of traffic. The officers affected a traffic stop and subsequent to an investigation one (1) man was arrested for "Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle" and "Violation of Controlled Substance Act." Confiscated were five (5) tubes of marijuana, and one (1) red Chevrolet Malibu.

TWELFTH PRECINCT

On August 6th, officers of the 12th Precinct responded to the 5000 block of W. Outer Dr. on an "Armed Robbery Just Happened" run. An investigation revealed that while a couple was returning home, three (3) men walked up to their car pointing weapons and demanding their money. Subsequent to an investigation three (3) men were arrested without incident for "Robbery / Armed – Citizen" and "Felony Firearm." Confiscated were three (3) handguns and numerous personal effects belonging to the couple.

THIRTEENTH PRECINCT

On August 5th, officers of the 13th Precinct responded to 80 Seward on a "Man with a Gun" run. An investigation revealed that a man who lived in the building kicked in the door to gain entry into the home, produced a handgun and threatened the lives of the homeowner. Subsequent to an investigation one (1) man was arrested for "Home Invasion I", "Felon in possession", "Felonious Assault" and "Felony Firearm."

Chief of Police Ella M. Bully-Cummings

7. PRESENTATION – HOMICIDE SECTION

Lt. Tolbert gave the following PowerPoint presentation:

(SEE ATTACHMENT)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Chief Ella Bully-Cummings wanted to give thanks to Lt. Tolbert and the Homicide Section.

Chairperson Ramirez stated do you work closely with the Joshua Project?

Lt. Tolbert stated yes the Joshua Project; I work very closely with the Mr. Bill Russell of the Attorney General Office. We exchange information whenever we can.

Chairperson Ramirez asked if you Homicide Detectives are in the middle of a homicide are they allowed to work overtime?

Lt. Tolbert Yes ma'am.

Chairperson Ramirez stated that because she has been hearing from some officers that they do not.

Lt. Tolbert stated that if we are working a case all the overtime is approved.

Chairperson Ramirez asked so there is no problem with overtime? If they are doing an interrogation they do not have to stop for a shift change.

Lt. Tolbert stated if they are in the middle of a case on shift change during interrogation we will continue on

Comm. Hampton asked what is the gender makeup of you department?

Lt. Tolbert stated we are probably at about 60-40.

Comm. Norris asked does the department record the interrogations?

Lt. Tolbert stated no we are in the processing of discussing this with the Wayne County Prosecutor to help us develop a protocol. Because if we are going to start video and audio taping we need some training for this.

Comm. Norris stated that when they went to the NACOLE conference last year where there was a fantastic presentation on the Death Penalty issues. I know we don't have the death penalty in Michigan but we certainly have wrongful conviction issues. One of the ways to avoid that is to record the process to record lineups and interrogations. It helps from the law enforcement side because it sort of hard to say that you did not say it when it is recorded. Fewer confessions get thrown out when they are recorded. I really strongly encourage the department to go in that direction.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated to Comm. Norris we are not just looking, we are going in that direction. It's going to be a change in the way we do business and the country is going in that direction.

Lt. Tolbert stated that we have a couple of working groups now and we are working with CRIB and the equipment has been ordered.

Chairperson Ramirez asked do you have detectives that speak a second language? The reason why I ask there are certain communities that need you to have that second language to interrogate. You stated that there are ways that you do your homicide flyers in different languages.

Lt. Tolbert stated yes, besides homicide we have the ability in the Criminal Investigative Bureau use their people who are bilingual.

Chairperson Ramirez stated not in the homicide section.

Lt. Tolbert stated we just recently lost a bilingual person in our section. Other than that we have always had a person who speaks bilingual. Most of the time we have to find someone who speaks Spanish.

Chairperson Ramirez stated it seem like you need to do some heavy recruiting.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business during this meeting.

9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, July 28, 2005 @ 3:00 p.m.
Police Headquarters, Room 328-A
1300 Beaubien
Detroit, MI 48226

10. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

Ron Scott stated that he would like to thank Comm. Norris for beautiful words that she had mentioned. It is part of our civic responsibility to be at these meetings. I am glad there has been a change in the Homicide Section. There some things that I would like to bring to your attention. One is the detaining of witnesses, such as a case where two juveniles being detained without the presence of their parents. Secondly you say that you keep the family involved and I hope you can continue to improve in this area. When there is a case in which a police officer shoots a citizen we hope that it will get the same attention as a citizen on citizen crime in terms of the investigation.

Ken Donaldson stated that his office has been broken into several times in one month by a theft ring. Stated that he has spoken to the police department and has not received the kind of support he needs that is why he came to speak to the Board of Police Commissioners today. He stated that the Black United Fund cannot continue to serve the community if they do not have any equipment to work with.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated to Mr. Donaldson to get in touch with AC Martin of Operations. We will see about bringing some relief from our crime prevention section. Having one of our community police officers to come out and take a look and do a survey to see if we can offer some additional help.

Comm. Norris stated to Ms. Walters "this is my last meeting you have to say something".

Ms. Walters stated to Comm. Norris that she hates to see her go. I am very pleased to hear Lt. Tolbert section will be doing some cross training. There is no excuse to retain a person who has drinking binges even though Mr. Walker was very elegant with his speech.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DANTE' L. GOSS
Executive Director
Board of Police Commissioners

DLG/kdw